

INFORMATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY

USSR

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SUBJECT

Concentration Camps
in Northern Russia

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1
REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

25X1 1. Vetlah is the name given to a group of concentration camps lying about
25X1 250 kilometers northeast of the city of Kirov. It is composed of some
25X1 sixteen camps, in which about 80,000 exiles are working, principally
25X1 on the cutting and finishing of lumber. A railroad track runs the
length of the camps, covering a distance of 270 kilometers from the
city of Yar northward through Kirs and finally to the sixteenth camp.
Distances between stops on this track are as follows:

From Yar to Stalnaya*	60 kilometers	Comment:
" Stalnaya to Rudnichny	140	"
" Camp 1 to Camp 2	12 or 32 (?)	"
" Camp 2 to Camp 3	3 = 4	"
" Camp 3 to Camp 4	4	"
" Camp 4 to Camp 5	4	"
" Camp 5 to Camp 6	6	"
" Camp 6 to Camp 9	9	"
" Camp 9 to Camp 12	12	"
" Camp 12 to Camp 13	12	"
" Camp 13 to Camp 15	11	"
" Camp 15 to Camp 16	24	"
" Camp 10 to Camp 11	11	"
" Camp 3 to Camp 7	7	"
" Camp 6 to Camp 8	8	"

Comment: No explanation is given for the discrepancy between the total of these figures and the total of 270 kms mentioned above. distance from #1 to #2 first as 32 kms and then as 12 kms.

25X1 Comment: According to the kilometerage given, Stalnaya appears to be the same as Omutninsk at 58°40'N, 52°10'E.)

2. Stalnaya Sotsizgorodok (workers' town): Located sixty kilometers north of Yar along the railroad line. It is a settlement for workers and houses 5,000 to 6,000 workers in government-constructed and maintained houses. In the center of the town there is a huge steel mill which operates twenty-four hours a day and smelts metal obtained not far from the town. Horse-drawn carts carry the refined metal from the mill to nearby rail cars.

CLASSIFICATION

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S

DDA Form 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG.

Date: 05 MAY 1978 By

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 Oct 1963 from the Director to the JCS to the effect that all documents of this type are to be regraded to CONFIDENTIAL.

Next Review Date: 2000

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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3. Rudnichnyy: Lies about 140 kilometers north of Stalnaya on the railroad line. It is composed of two districts; one is inhabited by Russian workers and the other by well-to-do Russians who have been living in exile for many years. All the inhabitants are employed in the nearby stone quarry, where rock is extracted and transferred to a factory located along the railroad line. It is crushed and converted into fertilizer which is used in the vicinity of Kirov, where the fields are in poor condition. There is also a hospital for the treatment of German prisoners-of-war who are employed in the various camps of the Vetlah group.
4. Camp No. 1: Located about two kilometers south of Rudnichnyy on the western side of the tracks. [redacted] Lumber which is finished in camps to the north and destined for the south is brought to this camp by train. The train crews are changed at this point and the train continues southward. There is a machine shop in this camp for the repair and overhauling of railroad engines.
5. Camp No. 2: Located 12kms. or 32 kms. north of Camp No. 1. Rifle-butts, made in the north from a special wood called "pirioza", are carried down various streams to this camp for further transfer to factories for final processing.
6. Camp No. 3: Three kilometers north of the preceding camp; it is occupied exclusively by German prisoners-of-war who are engaged in wood-cutting and wood-processing. There is one sovkhos in this area.
7. Camp No. 7: A branch line runs from Camp No. 3 for a distance of about seven kilometers to Camp No. 7, where there is a lumber mill producing wood for both fuel and construction.
8. Camp No. 4: Lies four kilometers north of Camp No. 3 and contains only hospitals where camp workers are treated.
9. Workshop No. 4: Located on the railroad line between Camps 3 and 4. This shop is of importance because it converts two kinds of wood (giolka and sasna /sic; zheltka ?/) into pulp, which is bound into bundles of 5, 10, 16, and 32 kilos. It is said that these are shipped to the south and used in the manufacture of gunpowder.
10. Camp No. 5: About 3,000 exiles of various nationalities are held in this camp and work in the nearby shops. Men are sent from this camp every day to Sotsigorodok for various forced labor projects. A certain Vakonits is the camp director, with one Krauzin as his assistant. The MVD representative is one Faminiks. [redacted]
11. Machine Shop: This is located on the western side of the track about 500 meters south of the fifth camp. About 300 exiles work in this shop, doing all kinds of repair work on tractors, automobiles, sewing machines, railway cars, and other machines used in the camps. Mulin is director of the shop.
12. Lesnaya: A railway station north of Camp No. 5 and the main station of the area. It has four or five spurs for the shifting of cars.
13. Sotsigorodok: Lies one kilometer north of Lesnaya. The central offices of Vetlah MVD are located here. Kuchtikov, a Russian colonel, is in charge of these offices. Syubin is his assistant; Petrov is in charge of lumber mills. Colonel Kyapin is in charge of all the camp guards. Chvarastinsky is in charge of railroad workers. One MVD member is posted in every camp for a three-month period of duty. Votsky is the general director of the MVD and Faminiks (not identical with Faminiks of paragraph 10) is his assistant.

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14. Camp No. 6: Lies six kilometers north of Camp No. 5. It includes some 1,500 to 2,000 workers who are mostly engaged in wood-cutting and the manufacture of railroad ties. One Vasilev is in charge. He enjoys a very good reputation for fairness among the workers.
15. Camp No. 8: Workers engaged in cutting wood. No other details are known.
16. Camp No. 9: There are about 2,500 Volga Germans in this camp. They are employed in cutting wood.
17. Camp No. 12: There are about 2,000 to 2,500 Volga Germans in this camp. They are engaged in the manufacture of railway ties. The director is Bauer, a German who is a member of the Communist Party.
18. Camp No. 13: About 1,000 to 1,200 workers are in this camp. They are employed in cutting wood.
19. Camp No. 15: This camp contains 700 to 800 persons. Kazskovsky is the director.
20. Camp No. 16: [redacted] it produces wood for shipbuilding and the construction of airplanes.
21. Camp No. 14: No details known.
22. Between Camps 4 and 5 and about 500 meters west of the railroad line there is a temporary landing strip, used by the single-engined plane of Kuchtikov, director of the Vetlah camps. The pilot is a junior Russian officer by the name of Paulis. The plane is painted white. Since 1944 the strip has often been visited by another plane, painted green, which seemed to be from another camp called Utzlag.
23. The government presents awards to camp directors who are considered efficient and industrious. On the occasion of the presentation, a public holiday is declared and certain favored workers of the camps are allowed to participate. Kuchtikov received five such awards up to 1946.
24. Further Northern Russian Camps: The Pininga camp system consists of twenty sub-camps, each of which contains 1,500 or more men. The Syktyvkar system consists of nineteen sub-camps similar in size to those of the Pininga system. Commandants of the Pininga camps between 1940 and 1946 were Plodnik (1940-1941) and Matfeyev. Commandants of the Syktyvkar camps were: Sorikov, Anastas Letonovich, Zuparenko, Vasiliev, and another Vasiliev (not related to the preceding one). All camp commandants and security agents are army officers, with ranks ranging from warrant officer to captain. Prisoners in the camps are not assigned numbers but are called by their surnames. Prisoners' identity documents and photographs are kept in the office of the camp commandant.

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